

ROMKIDS



SUMMER CLUB



2026

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ROM

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MISSION

ROMKids transforms lives by helping children and youth understand the past, make sense of the present, and come together to shape our collective future. We foster learning, impart knowledge, share global collections and research, and spark creative multidisciplinary exchange on topics within the intersecting worlds of art, culture, and nature.

Children and youth will be inspired by engaging with diverse educators; hands-on, experiential learning; imaginative art projects, activities, and experiments; and unique access to galleries, collections, and ROM experts.

ROMKids builds community through accessible and inclusive teaching practices, ensuring every child and young person has a safe, rewarding place to explore, learn and grow.

HISTORY OF ROMKIDS



ROMKids began in 1938 with the formation of Saturday Club, which is widely regarded in the industry as the first official museum camp.

Ruth Home, the program's first Camp Director, believed that museums should belong to everyone, including women and children. With the support of community donations, access to an art studio in the Palaeontology Department, and the teaching support of then ROM artist Sylvia Hahn, she brought the camp to life.

Summer Club followed in 1942, expanding opportunities for young learners. March Break Camp started in 1998, and ROMKids Jr. furthered the mission in 2008, continuing to grow ROMKids into the vibrant, inclusive initiative it is today.

ROMKIDS TEAM

Group Ratios

In accordance with Ontario Camp Association and ROMKids policies, all groups must follow standardized children-to-staffing ratios: 6:1 for 5-year-olds, 8:1 for 6-7-year-olds, and 10:1 for children 8-years and older.

These ratios allow staff to create safe, enriching experiences while encouraging curiosity, adventure, and hands-on learning throughout the Museum.

Group Instructors

Each group is led by a dedicated instructor who holds a degree or diploma in a museum and/or education-related field such as teaching, arts, museum studies, archaeology, or environmental sciences, and has proven experience working with children.

Instructors are responsible for:

- Researching and developing daily lessons based on the group's theme
- Leading engaging activities in galleries, art studios, and outdoor spaces
- Supporting campers' creativity, critical thinking, collaboration, and overall growth
- Modeling inclusive, respectful behaviour

Camp Assistants

Assistants are secondary school or university students/graduates with extensive experience working with children in educational settings. They are trained in health and safety protocols, working with children, accessibility, and Museum etiquette to ensure a positive experience for all campers.

Each group has between one and three assistants, who are responsible for:

- Welcoming campers during sign-in and managing sign-out
- Supporting instructors during lessons, gallery visits, and activities
- Supervising outdoor breaks and play times
- Providing help to campers as needed
- Managing individual and group behaviour

ROMKIDS TEAM

Volunteers

Each group is additionally supported by two or more volunteers, many of whom are former campers who return to give back to the community, helping to create the same great experiences they had as campers themselves. Volunteers receive training and work closely with instructors and assistants to ensure each camper has a safe and enjoyable time.

Volunteers assist by:

- Providing support during art projects and hands-on activities
- Engaging campers during breaks and transitions
- Providing extra support during gallery exploration
- Helping to maintain a safe and welcoming environment

CAMP DIRECTOR, ROMKIDS MANAGER

Kiron Mukherjee (He/Him/His)

Kiron is an educator who works with students of all ages to help creatively express their scientific curiosity and wonder. After 20+ years at ROM, primarily as the ROMKids Camp Director, Kiron believes in the power that science, art, and story have on children's learning and development.



Kiron previously served on the board of advisors for OWL Magazine, was named one of Canada's 100 Voices of Science Communication by Science Borealis, and taught science communication with the Environmental Visual Communication program at Fleming College. He has been featured in the Toronto Star, National Post, Globe and Mail, and on CBC, YTV, Global Television, and more. In addition to his extensive experience in curriculum development, Kiron is most proud of cultivating enthusiastic community advocates for the programs he works with.

Though he majored in History at York University, Kiron considers his early years as a ROMKids camper to be a highly formative part of his education.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, ROMKIDS COORDINATOR

Alex Schnekenburger (She/Her/Hers)

Alex is an experienced educator and museum programmer. She is responsible for the day-to-day operational and administrative functions as well as the curriculum of all ROMKids programs. She is passionate about teaching children and youth about the magical world of art, history, and science, and is deeply committed to creating inclusive and accessible spaces for youth with disabilities by leading the ROMKids 1:1 Accessibility Program.



While Alex has worked at ROM for over a decade, most prominently as the ROMKids Assistant Director, she also interned at the National Museum of Ireland-Archaeology in Dublin, where she worked closely with the education team researching museum accessibility strategies. Alex graduated from the University of Toronto with a Bachelor of History and Anthropology and received her Masters of Museum Studies from Johns Hopkins. In her free time, Alex is an avid traveler, visiting as many museums as possible, and jamming out to Taylor Swift.

SUMMER CLUB 2026

New this summer

We're excited to welcome new groups – *In Theory*, *ROMnivore*, and *Making Of* – each offer a fresh, inspiring way to learn more in our galleries. We look forward to kicking off Summer Club 2026 with campers old and new. Spend your summer at ROM, unearth the fascinating stories in the vast collections, and make memories that will last a lifetime. Journey into an immersive, awe-inspiring envisioning of our world seen from a bee's perspective in the special exhibition *BEES: A Story of Survival*. Step inside the hive and uncover 120 million years of resilience depicted in the vibrant, interconnected world of these tiny creatures. Blending immersive art, soundscapes, architecture, and scientific inquiry, campers will learn how integral the small but mighty bee is to humanity's future.



Camp Pricing

Session 1 and 3 9-day camp	\$610 Extended Care \$125
Session 2 and 4 10-day camp	\$660 Extended Care \$135
Session 5 and 6 5-day camp	\$420 Extended Care \$80
T-shirt (optional)	\$20

COURSE CALENDAR

AGE	Session 1 Jun 29–Jul 10 (excl. Jul 1)	Session 2 Jul 13–24	Session 3 Jul 27–Aug 7 (excl. Aug 3)	Session 4 Aug 10–21	Session 5 Aug 24–28	Session 6 Aug 31–Sept 4
5	Odds and Ends	Busy Bees	Once Upon A Time	Animal Tales	No Place Like Home	Curious Creatures
6–7	Dino Detectives	Stargazers	ROMnivores	Wild About Art	ROMnivores	Wild About Art
6–7	My Masterpiece	Blast From The Past	Time Bandits	National Treasures	My Masterpiece	Blast from the Past
8–10	My Museum	In the Field	Alien Invaders	Down to Earth	Heroic Journey	My Museum
8–10	Heroic Journey	Plot Twist	Summer Club Combo	This Day Then	Summer Club Combo	In the Field
8–10	Insides Out	ROM RPG	Bright Side	ROM RPG	Insides Out	ROM RPG
11–14	Portfolio Primers	In Theory	Making Of	ROM Revealed	Relics & Ruins	Making Of
11–14	Naturequest	All the ROM's a Stage	Museum Mysteries	That's a Wrap!	Naturequest	Portfolio Primers
11–14	Dungeons & Dragons	Relics & Ruins	Dungeons & Dragons	Battlefield ROM	Dungeons & Dragons	In Theory
14–16	Leadership	Leadership	Leadership	Leadership		
5–16	Extended Care	Extended Care	Extended Care	Extended Care	Extended Care	Extended Care

AGE 5



Once Upon A Time

Join us in an imaginary world where anything can happen. As a brave knight, a bold explorer, or a clever trickster, you'll step into the pages of much loved tales from around the world. Through drama, storytelling, puppetry, and art, the stage will be set for some epic adventures.

Odds and Ends

Did you know that every rock, flower, and shell has a story to tell? Or that the objects all around us hold memories? Get ready for a session filled with the captivating tales of odds and ends from the world around us. We'll go on an expedition to Egypt and learn how a single, tiny bead can illuminate human history, then we'll navigate the Galleries of Africa: Nubia to uncover how rocks can be important tools. After, we'll swim into Earth's oldest oceans and learn what the smallest of fossils can reveal about the evolution of life. From trinkets to knickknacks to novelties and beyond, every tiny treasure connects us to the story of our planet.

Busy Bees

Prepare to *bee* amazed by this session as we flit and flutter through ROM. Everywhere you go, nature is buzzing, building, growing, and working together, so let's explore it! Discover the fascinating teamwork between critters and creatures, like the unlikely friendship between the plover bird and Nile crocodile. Enter the bustling world of the planet's hardest working animals as we march with ants, build with beavers, and tunnel with moles. From beehives to anthills, and burrows to nests, learn about the many homes in our planet's incredible biodiversity. Then, see the world through the eyes of bees with a trip to the special exhibition, *BEES: A Story of Survival* and learn how to communicate with them through dance. Grab your imaginary wings as we take a closer look at just how wonderfully busy the natural world can be.

Animal Tales

Gather 'round and we'll tell you tales of animals all around us. Listen to Arachne as she weaves her spidery story in the Gallery of Greece. Look at the sun and moon in the Korea Gallery as we run from a fearsome tiger. Then, try not to get fooled by trickster animals Raven and Anansi. We'll buzz into the beehive with a visit to the special exhibition, *Bees: A Story of Survival*, then stomp into the James and Louise Temerty Galleries of the Age of Dinosaurs and take a close look at prehistoric pals and the palaeontologists that discovered them. The galleries take us around the world as we listen to stories of amazing animals before spinning some fanciful tales of our own.

No Place Like Home

Whether it's an ocean tide pool or a nest high in a tree, a Medieval castle or a hut made from mud, all creatures need a place to call home. Journey through the Museum to see the homes and habitats of both the human and natural world. Then, let your imagination guide you as you craft a new home for a lost creature, a colourful rainforest habitat, or a castle fit for a king.

AGE 5

Curious Creatures

Pull out your binoculars, because we're about to spy on some truly curious creatures! Together, we'll find some of the strangest members of the animal kingdom. We'll learn why deep-sea fish have giant eyes, how certain animals glow in the dark, and the clever ways camouflaged creatures hide in plain sight. From angler fish to axolotl and armadillos, there are lots of seriously strange creatures to meet.

AGES 6-7

Dino Detectives

Grab your magnifying glass and detective cap as we investigate the world of prehistoric wildlife. Stomp like a *Stegosaurus* and roar like a raptor as we meet some of the most most fascinating specimens at ROM. Follow the trail of dinosaur footprints all the way to the Life in Crisis: Schad Gallery of Biodiversity to uncover the secrets of evolution. Meet two of history's most famous palaeontologists and unearth the importance of working together. Then, jet to China and discover the dazzling connection between dinosaurs and dragons. We are searching high and low this summer for all things dinosaur.

Stargazers

Mastering the basics of space exploration will leave you starstruck! Wonder at the ancient astronomers from Mesopotamia and beyond, learn the magic of the northern lights, create a cosmic comet, and plan your own space mission to Mars. Your astronomical adventures in the mini-planetarium will inspire crafts and activities that are truly out-of-this world.

ROMnivores

Welcome to ROMnivores, where everything is on the menu. Follow clever crows cracking nuts, raccoons rummaging through remains, and gazelles grazing on grassy greens. Meet the mighty dinosaurs that once roamed our planet, then, be brave as we say hello to sharp-toothed carnivores who chase, pounce, and prowl their prey. Investigate how jaws, teeth, and tummies are built - and have evolved - for the wild and the difference between a food chain and a food web. Dig in, and find out how every critter and creature is important in the story of how animals survive, thrive, and keep the world alive with life.

AGES 6–7



Wild About Art

Create art from the wilderness around us. From the African Savannah to your own backyard, we'll take a closer look at nature's most intriguing creatures. This session will help you gain a fresh perspective on the patterns and textures in nature and provides plenty of inspiration for your own artistic creations. A leopard becomes concealed in a camouflage collage, dinosaur tracks are transformed into one-of-a-kind prints, and a fruit bat becomes animated as a friendly puppet. You'll go wild for these wacky art projects.

My Masterpiece

Grab your crayons, paintbrushes, and pencils and get ready for an around-the-world artistic adventure. Experience the textures of time with a trip to the Galleries of Africa: Egypt. Gaze at the dazzling gemstones and minerals in the Teck Suite of Galleries: Earth's Treasures. Marvel at the intricate patterns in the Daphne Cockwell Gallery dedicated to First Peoples Art & Culture. There's so much at the Museum to provide inspiration for your brilliant masterpieces. No corner will be left unturned as you let your creativity soar.

Blast from the Past

Where are we going this time? Back in time to the age of enlightenment, further back to the rise of civilizations, and all the way back to the era of stone tools. We'll traverse the sands of time in the Galleries of Africa: Egypt, roam the Kingdom of Kush in the Galleries of Africa: Nubia, and follow fossilized footsteps in the James and Louise Temerty Galleries of the Age of Dinosaurs. Hear exciting stories from around the world as you meet history's daring adventurers, and then bring these exciting stories to life through one-of-a-kind works of art. We promise, you'll be back in time before the day ends.

Time Bandits

Spend your summer days caught in a time warp. Climb into your time machine and encounter a few billion years of history right under your nose. Colourful collages and drawings will help you capture each day's voyage. Whether you're donning a helmet and shield for a gallant tournament or treading in the footprints of a mighty *Maiasaura*, after this adventure, the twenty-first century will seem rather dull.

National Treasures

Discover the greatest treasures of the world in this international adventure. From iconic marble statues of ancient Greece to colossal temple murals of 13th century China, there are so many countries' marvels to be revealed. From the diamond mines of northern Canada, to the treasures Pharaohs carried into the afterlife, to the precious metals yet to be found in distant asteroids, riches are everywhere around us.

AGES 8–10

My Museum

Every object has a story. Stretch your imagination as you visit the galleries and tell the story of your ROM. Use storytelling, art, and drama to build an adventure of your favourite things in the Museum for family and friends. From the fascinating true-life stories of how specimens were collected in the field, to fanciful interpretations of how objects, like the limestone camels, feel about all the kids that walk by, there's no limit to the tales you can weave.

Bright Side

We're coming out of our cave and into the sunlight as we encounter the uplifting stories that make our world shine. Here, we'll meet historical heroes who changed lives, awesome discoveries that changed the world for the better, and triumphs of nature that occur each day. From innovative scientists and impressive revolutionaries to inspiring artists and important species, there is always something to celebrate. Meet Mary Anning and hear how she became one of history's most influential palaeontologists. Learn about the Space Race and the lasting impact it made on research and discovery. Visit our special exhibition, *BEES: A Story of Survival*, and discover the crucial role pollinators play in keeping our planet buzzing with life. Learn how ecological and sustainability initiatives are helping to clean our oceans, heal the ozone's hole, and revitalize endangered animal populations. With every story we'll see just how wonderful our world can be.

Alien Invaders

Uncover evidence of aliens in the world around us. Unravel myths of the origins of human culture, look for signs of life in space, then see the effects of alien plants and animals on fragile eco-systems, and identify the most successful species.



Down to Earth

Did you know that we should be living through an ice age? Or that forests are some of the most important guardians of our planet? In this examination of all things Earth, we'll visit the Patrick and Barbara Keenan Family Gallery of Hands-On Biodiversity and take a closer look at the complexities of our ecosystems, then stroll through the Daphne Cockwell Gallery dedicated to First Peoples Art & Culture to learn about the traditional knowledge that protects our planet. Next, learn how rising sea levels, growing global temperatures, increasing natural disasters, and other climate irregularities are hurting our home. The field of climate science offers fascinating findings and innovations that are leading us towards a greener future. Get down to earth - touch the grass and reconnect with the beauty of our planet.

AGES 8–10

Heroic Journey

Let the myths and legends of ancient civilizations introduce you to the ultimate adventure: The Heroic Journey. Follow the adventures of the Scandinavian warrior Beowulf, discover the legend of the Egyptian god Osiris, or join in the quest of the Sumerian king Gilgamesh. Use drawing, painting, and other art techniques to interpret your encounters and record your own valiant tales.

Plot Twist

Get ready for a session packed with twists and turns you never saw coming. We dive into the unexpected and unpredictable events of human history to uncover revolutions sparked from a single idea, discoveries made by accident, decisions that changed the world forever, and unpredictable moments that make you say, “no way!” Experiment with Alexander Fleming and discover a lifesaving medication. Stumble upon the key to hieroglyphics and decipher a language long past. Take cover in a giant horse and be part of the most famous of curve balls in ancient Greek stories. Join us as we relive history’s most surprising plot twists.

This Day Then

Mark your calendars and get ready to travel through time. We’ll embark on a voyage through a tapestry of time and see what unfolded on this very day in the past. From groundbreaking discoveries to monumental moments and influential figures, we can learn a lot from the past. Step across the ages with a trip to the James and Louise Temerty Galleries of the Age of Dinosaurs, listen to the echoes of past dynasties in the Korea gallery, and walk the timeline of civilization in the Galleries of Africa: Egypt. The past comes alive through interesting events that share a date.



Insides Out

We’re turning the world inside out and discovering what lies within. From tectonic plates that shape our planet, to roots that bring life to plants, to brains that help living things think, plan, and play, what lives inside tells a story. Journey into the earth’s core and feel the heat from the planet’s heart. Try your hand at comparative anatomy as we look at skeletons of birds and their ancestors. Meet the Greenland shark and its antifreeze-like blood, gaze at the donut-shaped brain of our squid friends, and check out moss that took a trip to space. From bioluminescence to limb regeneration, get ready to look inwards.

AGES 8–10

ROM RPG

Paladins, pixies, and pegasus galore! Create your character, carefully strategize, and choose your own ROM-venture on this journey through the magical exhibitions at the Museum. Visit the Life in Crisis: Schad Gallery of Biodiversity and meet the real-life animals that have inspired many monsters of mythology. Trek through the culture galleries and listen to stories of heroes past for some tips and tricks in your own campaign. Will you best Medusa's stoney gaze or will it be a hard rock life for your character? Can you spot the Jinn before they sneak up on you or will its trickster nature make you the fool? Grab your D20 and roll for initiative on this journey of epic proportions.

An extension of ROMKid's popular Dungeons & Dragons group.

In the Field

There's more to ROM than meets the eye as we go behind the scenes into the world of Museum researchers. Follow the experts around the world and learn about the globetrotting ways of the curatorial team. From digging up desert dinos, scaling trees in rainforests, and tracking down hidden archaeological wonders, there's no end to the excitement of ROM research. Get inspired, then get outside, as you collect your own experiences in the field.



Summer Club Combo

Can't decide whether to fulfill your flare for the artistic or test your inquiring mind? Why not do both in this exciting take on the classic Summer Club experience. Sample a smorgasbord of topics inspired by the galleries, collections, and research at ROM. Spend your mornings roaming the Museum to encounter world arts and cultures that will inspire your own artistic creations and then trek through the galleries and beyond in the afternoon to take in a world of scientific investigation.

AGES 11–14

Portfolio Primers

Build your portfolio as you find inspiration from the diverse galleries at ROM. Learn the fundamentals of art techniques, from drawing to printmaking, and get comfortable with various media including pencil, pastel, and paint. Once your portfolio is primed and ready, it'll be time to share your work with an end-of-session exhibition.

In Theory

Everything starts with a question. How did life begin? What lies in the depths of our oceans? What makes a human, well, human? Researchers are constantly looking for, and sometimes finding, answers to the unknowns that wrack our brain. Investigate how the “what ifs” and “whys” become “wows” of scientific and historic research. From the theory of the creation of the universe, to ideas about adaptation and queries on consciousness, we'll ponder, philosophize, and probe our way through big questions. Understand the difference between a hypothesis and a theory, and the important difference that separates them from conspiracy theories. Spend your session learning about the perpetual motion of inquiry, investigation, and innovation.

Making Of

The story of creation is unveiled within the walls of the Museum in this engaging session. From the Big Bang that brought forth our universe to the explosion of life from the tiniest of cells to ancient stone tools, to marvelous modern inventions, curious minds are invited to join our examination of creation. Roll with the wheel that got the world moving, navigate with the creation of the compass, flip through the pages of history with the development of the printing press, and take flight with the invention of airplanes. Design, construct, tinker, and test as we explore the making of.

ROM Revealed

Ever wonder what makes the Museum tick? Take a trip behind the scenes and encounter everything that makes a museum great! Meet the curatorial team and learn how galleries are created and built, as well as a couple of hidden secrets too. Discover how – and why – ROM holds world famous collections and see what it takes to build a world class museum.

All the ROM's a Stage

Places everyone! Prepare yourself for a journey of the imagination and bring exhibitions at ROM to life. Our special theatre school draws on the Museum's rich cultural and dramatic back drop to enhance your acting abilities through training in voice, movement, expression and dialogue. Everything you learn will culminate in a final performance worthy of a Shakespearean stage.

This group will be putting on a theatre production on the final Friday of the session.

AGES 11–14

Battlefield ROM

For centuries, humankind has waged wars and battles. Let's take a closer look at the armies, weapons, and tactics leaders have used throughout the ages to expand and outwit their enemies. Relive the famous historic battles of Alexander the Great, William the Conqueror, and Ramses II. You'll have plenty of hands-on experience as you investigate arms and armour up close. Then, apply your newfound strategy skills in games and role play.

Dungeons & Dragons

Discover the cultures and artifacts that inspired the mysteries, creatures, and weapons from Dungeons & Dragons, and other popular table-top role playing games. Navigate ancient ruins and enchanted lagoons, while playing an ongoing campaign in a ROM-inspired realm. Create characters, collaborate, strategize, and try to stay on the Dungeon Master's good side!

Relics & Ruins

What can we learn from a fallen city? Why, just about anything. From daily life to their untimely demise, the relics and ruins of ancient civilizations are some of history's greatest treasures. Get your hands on relics like ancient inventions and weapons of war that made Egypt, Rome, and Byzantium some of the world's greatest empires, before examining their ruins to uncover the mystery of their final fall.

That's a Wrap

There's no business like show business! Join us on an journey into the world of entertainment. Take a story idea from script to screen in this two-week crash course on film and video technique. You'll learn about scriptwriting, storyboards, acting, and cinematography – just like the pros. From film theory to hands-on practice, we'll have you calling the shots in no time.

Naturequest

Answer nature's call and head outdoors for a full day of scientific investigation on shores and in forests around the city. Study everything from rocks and fossils to birds and mammals as we encounter scientists in action and learn about Toronto's biodiversity. Get up close and personal with pond creatures and urban wildlife and develop a greater appreciation for the balance of nature and the hidden wonders right in your own backyard.

This is a field trip group. Please come to camp prepared with water bottles, sunscreen, and appropriate clothing on field trip days.

Museum Mysteries

Get ready to unlock some of the greatest mysteries at ROM as we learn about the secrets behind Canada's largest Museum. Find out how a famous dinosaur went missing for decades, and how the largest dinosaur skeleton made its way through the doors. Visit hidden collections and learn the stories behind some of the most mysterious objects and specimens. Become a Museum insider as we reveal the ins and outs of ROM's history.

AGES 14–16

Leadership

Join our Leadership program and improve your confidence, communication skills, and ability to work with a team. Gain real, hands-on experience working with children, assistants, and instructors in our Summer Club programs to help reinforce exercises in problem solving, motivation, and conflict resolution. You'll also get a chance to meet with Museum professionals and learn about their careers.

Graduates of this program will be considered for volunteer assistant positions in next year's Summer Club.



WELCOME TO SUMMER CLUB

Daily Camp Schedule

8:10 – 9:00 AM	Drop off and sign in at the President's Choice School Entrance.
9:00 – 10:15 AM	Lesson time with the instructor and gallery exploration.
10:15 – 10:45 AM	Break and snack time outside in Philosopher's Walk, weather permitting.
10:45 AM – 12:00 PM	Work on art projects or science experiments in our learning labs.
12:00 – 1:00 PM	Time to fuel up for the afternoon. We'll have lunch outside in Philosopher's Walk, weather permitting.
1:00 – 2:15 PM	Continue to visit the galleries and work through activities.
2:15 – 2:45 PM	Second break and snack time outside in Philosopher's Walk, weather permitting.
2:45 – 4:00 PM	Time to wrap up and prepare to go home.
4:00 PM	Sign-out at the lockers.
4:00 – 6:00 PM	Extended care.

PREPARING FOR CAMP

Please read the following information to help prepare for camp.

Morning Drop-off

- Camp drop-off is from 8:10 – 9:00 am.
- Please enter the Museum via the President's Choice School Entrance on the south side of the building. Go down the small set of stairs between the Museum and the Planetarium building and through the first set of glass doors on the right.
- Summer Club staff will be waiting alongside the Weston Entrance on Queen's Park. They can escort your child into the Museum each morning. We strongly recommend entering with your child on the first day to ensure all health, pickup, and attendance details are accurate.
- If it is your first time attending camp, we suggest arriving earlier to allow your child time to acclimate to the environment and our staff.
- Morning arrival movies take place between 8:10 – 9:00 am while campers arrive. Movies consist of child-friendly short films, educational documentaries, or previous camper video creations.

Snack and Lunch

- Children must bring their own snacks and lunch to camp. Please ensure you pack enough for a busy day of camp.
- Please note that foods containing nuts (ie. peanut butter, Nutella, granola, trail mix, etc.) are **not** permitted. If you are sending an alternate butter (ie. Wow Butter, Sun Butter, etc.), we kindly ask that your child be aware or include a note in the lunch box informing staff.

Pick-up

- Photo ID must be provided at pickup every day. Camper sign-out will be at the lockers just inside the President's Choice School Entrance doors each day.
- Please ensure that all possible pick-up names are provided and appear correctly on the attendance (including the person registering). If a name is not provided, the primary contact will be called for confirmation before your child is released to them.
- We do not permit children to leave unattended. If your child is 11– 14 years of age, they can leave on their own with a signed note or parental/guardian signoff.
- Please note that pickup in the hallway can feel congested. We appreciate your patience during sign-out.
- Children must be picked up promptly after programs or extended care. Late fees apply.



PREPARING FOR CAMP



Extended Care

- Extended care is from 4:00 – 6:00 pm.
- Children will enjoy relaxed play or an engaging movie.
- A limited number of spots are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Please consult the fee schedule and be sure to check off the appropriate section on the registration form
- If your child is left beyond 6:00 pm you will be subject to a late fee of \$1.00 per minute.

Parking

There is no parking available at the Museum. Please refer to the Location and Parking webpage at rom.ca for more information. There is a school bus loading zone along Queen's Park on the east side of the Museum where you may drop-off and pick-up your children briefly. Parking your car in this area and/or blocking the TTC stop are considered to be parking violations and you may be ticketed. The Museum assumes no responsibility for such violations, nor can we assist you with parking tickets.

Behaviour Policy

At ROM, we believe every child has the right to a safe, enjoyable, and educational experience. We therefore expect and encourage each participant to maintain a positive and appropriate level of conduct. Our staff and volunteers are respectful of the right of each child to be treated in a fair, consistent manner and strive to create an environment where our campers are encouraged to safely express themselves without fear of punishment or disapproval. We expect campers to act with empathy, respect their peers, and always stay with a staff member.

We take a proportional, stepped approach to behaviour:

Minor Behaviour – Staff will try to ascertain why the behaviour is occurring with the child. Staff will gently remind the child about program expectations.

Repeated Minor Behaviour – Staff will speak privately with the child about their behaviour and try to collaboratively work out strategies for better cooperation with the group. A short, supervised cool-down period may be given to allow the child to regulate before rejoining the rest of the campers. Caregivers will be informed and asked to reinforce proper program etiquette and expectations. In cases of persisting behaviour, staff may temporarily bring the child to the ROMKids office to discuss behaviour.

PREPARING FOR CAMP

Behaviour Policy (continued)

Serious Misbehaviours (refusal to cooperate, roughness) – Child will discuss behaviour with Office Staff and prepare an action plan to remedy behaviour. Caregivers will be notified and involved. If behaviour recurs, the child may be asked to leave the program without refund.

Major Offenses – To ensure a safe and enjoyable camp, we do not allow:

- Belittling or demeaning words, behaviour or actions
 - Discriminatory words or actions against protected groups (ie. 2SLGBTQIA+, race, gender, disability, ancestry, colour, creed, age, or any other identity)
 - Theft
 - Unsafe behaviour to self or others, including physical altercations or violence
 - Prohibited items: inappropriate or offensive pictures/materials
 - Dangerous possessions (knives, weapons, alcohol, illicit drugs)
- If any of these occur at camp or any behaviour that is deemed greatly unsafe to the child, staff, peers, or Museum, the child will immediately be withdrawn from the group and will discuss their behaviour with the Camp Directors. Caregivers are notified immediately. Reparations to property made and police involved if necessary. Child may be immediately and permanently removed from the program without refund.
- Our camp believes all behaviour starts with communication, as such, we will make every effort to work with our campers and caregivers to find a solution whenever possible. If your child has known behaviour either due to a formal diagnosis or as part of their current stage in life, we would appreciate a confidential discussion in-person, or over the phone, to ensure your child is successfully integrated into our program.

Our goal is to provide a safe, orderly, and enjoyable environment for your child and their peers. Your cooperation with this policy will help us toward this goal. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this policy, please contact us directly at 416 586 8043 or studio@rom.on.ca.



PREPARING FOR CAMP



Health and Safety

Epi-pens, Inhalers, & Other Medications – Campers who have prescribed epi-pens, inhalers, or other medications must bring them to and carry them on their person each day of camp. Please ensure that the Emergency Plan for medical emergencies has been filled out prior to arrival at camp. Medications are not to be given to campers by camp staff. If your child requires medication during camp hours, please contact the ROMKids office.

Communicable Diseases – If your camper has a reportable or non-reportable communicable disease, please inform the office as soon as possible and keep your child home from camp.

These include –

- Pink eye (conjunctivitis), strep throat, chicken pox, flu, lice, hand, foot and mouth disease, measles, coronaviruses (SARS, COVID-19, MERS), pertussis (whooping cough), tuberculosis (TB), or other unlisted communicable diseases.

Symptoms to watch out for include but are not excluded to –

- Fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath, decreased or loss of taste or smell, runny nose or nasal congestion, headache, extreme fatigue, sore throat, muscle aches or joint pain, gastrointestinal symptoms (such as vomiting or diarrhea), itchy scalp or rash on body, red eyes, swollen lymph nodes.

If symptoms of a communicable disease are displayed at camp, the camper may be asked to wear a mask and moved to a separate, supervised room. A parent/guardian will be contacted immediately to determine next steps.

Hand sanitizer will be available in all classrooms and around the Museum. If you do not want your child using alcohol-based hand sanitizer, please inform the staff in your child's group.

Reporting a positive (+) communicable disease case

If your child tests positive (+) –

- Please phone 416 586 8043 or email studio@rom.on.ca and inform the ROMKids office as soon as possible for next steps.
- Upon receipt of positive result, the ROMKids office will inform potential close contacts within the camp. Personal information (ie. name) surrounding positive test results will stay anonymous outside of the ROMKids office.



PREPARING FOR CAMP



Vaccination

To keep our camp and Museum community safe, it is strongly recommended that participants receive the vaccines available to them. If you are interested in learning more about vaccines to make an informed decision, follow the links below:

Vaccines and Immunizations

Ontario's Routine Immunization Schedule

Vaccine Safety

Masking

ROMKids camp is a mask-friendly space! Masking is recommended for participants who have or recently had a respiratory illness, particularly in indoor settings and crowds. Child and adult masks will be available on-site.

ROMKids and the Royal Ontario Museum follow provincial health guidelines and reserve the right to update policies and programs.

Accessibility and Inclusion

At the heart of all ROMKids programming is a belief in the power of inclusion. This mandate underscores all activities and staffing, ensuring campers can benefit from personalized care to help them grow and participate to fulfill their personal development and future potential. A unique element of ROMKids is the availability of one-on-one support staff who work closely with children and youth with behavioural, emotional, medical and/or physical needs.

If you have questions about accessibility at Summer Club or are interested in extra support for your child, please contact Alexandra Schnekenburger, ROMKids Coordinator & Assistant Camp Director at **416 586 8093** or **aschnekenburger@rom.on.ca**

CONTACT US

ROMKids Studio
studio@rom.on.ca
416 586 8043

Summer Club Registration Office
summerclub@rom.on.ca
416 586 5797

